

### United States Department of the Interior

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#### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tuscarora Field Office 3900 East Idaho Street Elko, Nevada 89801 http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko\_field\_office.html

In Reply Refer To: 3809(NV-0200) NVN-70547

OCT 1 3 2016

Dear Interested Party:

This letter is to inform you that The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Tuscarora Field Office, is accepting comments, recommendations and concerns for a new mining project proposal on public lands in Eureka County, Nevada.

The BLM has received a proposal from Newmont Mining Corp., (Newmont) to construct a new open pit at the Carlin and Pete Operations Area (CPOA). The new Perry Pit would be located in Eureka County approximately 20 miles north of Carlin Nevada along the Carlin Trend. (See map enclosed).

The legal description for the Project Area is: MDM, T35N, R50E, sections 13, 14, 23 & 24.

This Project proposal will be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment (EA) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and BLM policy. Comments will be used to guide the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, which will analyze the proposed action for potential impacts and address issues and concerns.

The proposed Perry Project will be an amendment to the existing Plan of Operations and would involve construction of a new open pit at the CPOA. This proposal would encompass 194 acres, 166 of which would be new disturbance. Of the new disturbance, 117 acres is public land. Most of the oxide ore would be processed at the existing North Area Leach Facility. No new waste rock dumps would be constructed as waste rock from the pit would be placed on or adjacent to existing waste rock facilities. Any Potentially Acid Generating material (PAG), if encountered, would be placed on an existing PAG Waste Rock Disposal Facility. Associated construction would include in-pit haul roads and construction of the Perry Pit Diversion Channel. This channel would connect with the current diversion channel around the Pete Pit to continue diverting meteoric surface runoff to the southeast around the project. All work would be above the water table with no dewatering. The proposed project is scheduled to begin construction of the diversion channel in 2018 with mining to start in 2019 and last for about 3 years.

The CPOA was initially approved to begin mining operations in 1981 under Environmental Assessment #EA-NV-010-81-042. Through subsequent plan amendments and NEPA documentation, the mine area has grown and is currently approved for disturbance of 2,984 acres. This amendment would bring the total acreage of disturbance up to 3,150 acres, of which 1,171 is public land. Enclosed are maps illustrating the existing and proposed disturbance at the CPOA.

Written comments should be submitted by close of business on **November 8, 2016** and should be sent to Perry Project Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, 3900 E Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801-4611, or emailed to sschmidt@blm.gov. Questions concerning this project should be addressed to Sarah Schmidt at the above address or by phone at (775) 753-0202 or by email at <a href="mailto:sschmidt@blm.gov">sschmidt@blm.gov</a>.

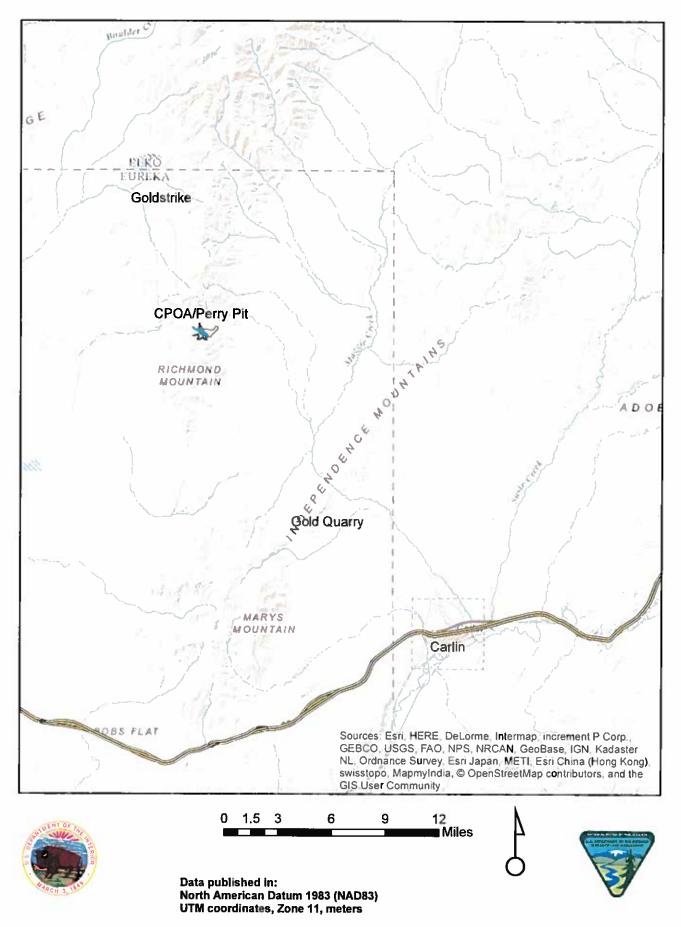
Maps and additional information can be found on the BLM website: bit.ly/2b1vtiS

Sincerely,

Melanie A Peterson Tuscarora Field Manager

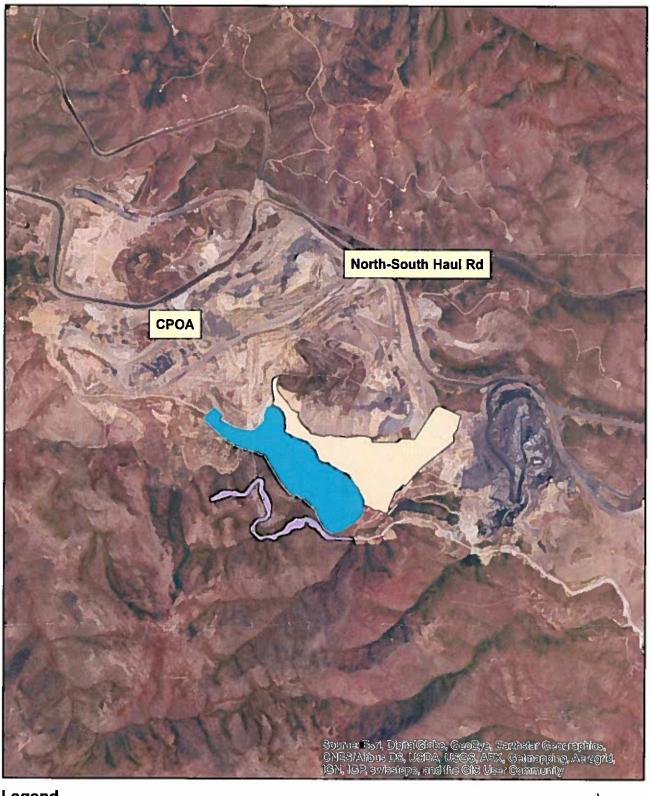
Enclosures: As stated above.

## **General Location**

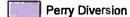


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## **Proposed Perry Pit at CPOA**







1.2 ■ Miles 0 0.15 0.3 0.9 0.6

Perry Pit as Permitted 122015

SE WRDF Full Extent (South East Waste Rock Disposal Facility)



Data published in: North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) UTM coordinates, Zone 11, meters

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